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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

14 FEBRUARY 2019

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles - Dozens of Reputed Gang Members, Associates Arrested in Crackdown

(U) Yesterday Federal agents arrested three dozen gang members and associates, from two Los Angeles-based street gangs, in connection with drug trafficking, extortion, and attempted murder cases. One operation targeted Florencia-13, and another targeted the Vineland Boys gang in the San Fernando Valley. These gangs are accused of being heavily armed and involved in shootings, assaults, and illegal gun sales – all to control their territory in Sun Valley, North Hollywood, and Burbank.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [NBC News](#)

(U) Hillcrest - Shooting at Restaurant a Possible Hate Crime

(U) A man in a trench coat, later identified as Stefano Markell Parker, armed with a high-powered rifle unleashed a “hail of gunfire” into a Hillcrest restaurant Tuesday night, sending employees and customers scrambling for cover, but injuring no one, police said. The Mayor of San Diego stated that investigators are looking into whether the shooting was a hate crime. At least nine people were inside the restaurant when the gunman opened fire and then lowered the rifle and calmly walked away. Police stated Wednesday that Parker was previously arrested on suspicion of homicide in Alabama and served several years in prison, but details of that incarceration are unclear.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

(U) Los Angeles - Hacker Arrested for Fake Bomb, Shooting Threats Against LAX, So Cal Schools

(U) Timothy Dalton Vaughn, 20, of North Carolina and another hacker from the UK wanted for making fake threats against LA International Airport and several Southern California school districts – along with conducting cyberattacks against several companies – was arrested Tuesday on charges of making interstate threats involving explosives and conspiracy. The two suspects are accused of sending threats to school districts in El Segundo, Mission Viejo, Tustin, Garden Grove, Santa Ana, Redlands, Jurupa Valley, Riverside, Chino, and Lompoc. The other man listed in the indictment is currently serving a prison sentence in England for a hoax threat against a commercial jet. The two men were part of a worldwide hacking collective known as Apophis Squad that conducted cyberattacks and swatting in the United States and the United Kingdom.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [CBS News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) New Mexico - El Paso Sector Border Patrol Sees Jump in Apprehensions

(U) Antelope Wells - Since October 2018, more than 5,000 illegal immigrants have been caught crossing the border in the El Paso Sector, arriving in 28 groups of more than 100 people crossing the El Paso Sector in that time. The latest incident occurred 11 February, when US Border Patrol (USBP) agents apprehended a group of 330 illegal immigrants at the Antelope Wells Port-of-Entry (POE). USBP confirmed the uptick in apprehensions in the area, describing them as large groups of people walking around the Antelope Wells POE and turning themselves into agents. USBP said this is a “win-win” outcome for human smugglers in Mexico because they are not getting arrested and getting money from

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those seeking asylum, sending migrants specifically to this area because it has “very limited assets” and they cannot be identified as easily as with a bigger city like El Paso.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [Fox News](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) North Carolina - Suspect on FBI's 10 Most Wanted List Killed**

(U) Apex - Greg Allen Carlson, an FBI top 10 most wanted fugitive, was shot and killed at a hotel while FBI agents tried to take him into custody on Wednesday. Authorities said an Apex Police officer spotted Carlson's car in the hotel's parking lot and then called in the FBI. Early the next morning, FBI secured the area as agents went into the hotel to arrest him. When agents got to the suspect's hotel room, they discovered he was armed. Authorities did not say what he was armed with, or what he said to agents, but the confrontation ended with the FBI fatally shooting Carlson. He was wanted in connection with multiple armed sexual assaults in Los Angeles, California, and was charged with burglary, assault with intent to commit rape, and assault with a deadly weapon.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [CBS News](#)

(U) New York - White 'Terrorist' Gets Life for Killing Black Man

(U) New York City - James Jackson, 30, described as a white supremacist and terrorist by authorities, was sentenced Wednesday to life in prison without parole. Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance read excerpts from Jackson's hate-filled manifesto as he decried the “horror of his actions” when he fatally stabbed 66-year-old Timothy Caughman in March 2017 after stalking black men in New York City.

Jackson told police he traveled from Baltimore to carry out the attack because New York is the media capital of the world. He said the slaying was intended to be practice for further assaults on black people.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [Detroit News](#)

(U) Virginia - Woman Arrested for Dealing Two Pounds of Fentanyl

(U) Norfolk - Antonella Barba, 32, was indicted on charges of distributing and possessing with intent to distribute cocaine, heroin, and fentanyl in Virginia while working as a courier for a large drug ring, according to her indictment. In October 2018, Barba was directed by Justin Michael Isaac, considered a ringleader in the drug conspiracy, to deliver the drugs – which included about two pounds of fentanyl. Barba was initially arrested and jailed on 11 October and charged with trying to sell 100 or more grams of heroin, according to police. Through her attorney, she has denied the charge.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [Patch](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Belgium - EU Blacklists Panama, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, and 20 Other Countries**

(U) Brussels - The European Commission has unveiled a list of 23 countries which it says have “strategic deficiencies in their anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing frameworks.” The announcement is likely to set off a fierce lobbying effort by the affected countries, which include Panama, Nigeria, and Saudi Arabia – all of which have extensive financial dealings in Europe. Other countries on the list include Botswana, Ghana, Libya, and a host of small Pacific and Caribbean island states such as Guam, Samoa, The Bahamas, and the US Virgin Islands. European banks will have to carry out increased due diligence checks on any transactions from the named countries or territories.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [Forbes](#)

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) Israel - Israeli NGO Threatens to Sue Coinbase for Enabling Hamas' Bitcoin Donations**

(U) Jerusalem - Israeli civil rights NGO Shurat HaDin recently threatened cryptocurrency exchange Coinbase with a lawsuit if it continues to allow Hamas to fundraise via its platform. The United States, where Coinbase is headquartered, views Hamas as a 'Foreign Terrorist Organization.' Though Hamas has already raised some amounts in bitcoin, the figure is small compared to what is raised via cash and other traditional channels – media previously reported that Hamas had only collected \$2,500 in bitcoin. While bitcoin donations could increase in the future, this is not likely to be by a significant amount, partly because bitcoin is not as anonymous as cash. With the emergence of blockchain analysis firms that can be hired by law enforcement agencies, transactions are traceable and terrorist organizations are no doubt aware of this.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [CCN](#)

(U) Iran - Iran Suicide Bombing Kills 27 Revolutionary Guards

(U) Tehran - A suicide bomber killed at least 27 members of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps and wounded 13 on a bus in a restive region of southeast Iran on Wednesday, Iranian media reported. It was among the deadliest attacks in Iran in years. The Revolutionary Guards, an elite Iranian paramilitary force, quickly blamed the United States for the assault, which came during the week that Iran's leaders have been celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, which overthrew the American-backed shah in 1979. On the social messaging app Telegram, a militant Sunni extremist group called Jaish al-Adl claimed responsibility for the attack, but officials did not confirm that the group was involved. Jaish al-Adl has links to al-Qa'ida and has operated in southeast Iran for years.

SOURCE: 13 February 2019, [New York Times](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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